VICTORY FLASHES

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Greetings:

If these were normal times--don't tell us, we know they aren't--this would be the vacation season both for Muhlenberg and for you and very little would be happening on the campus. Although that's not the case now, very little has happened in the last two weeks that seems worth telling you about.

Don't get us wrong--everybody around here is plenty busy, but the things they are doing have settled down into the groove of being routine It's quite in contrast to last year at this time when we still were trying to iron out some of the wrinkles in this job of training both military and civilian students. Now that program is running along smoothly and we're planning for the day when returning service men will take the place of Bluejackets and Marines on our campus. This College is one that will have a real program for returning service men who will be able to continue their education under the terms of the G.I. Bill of Rights. You can write that in your little book and you can tell your friends about it. The next service letter will include a little pamphlet that will explain the educational opportunities open to millions of service men under the bill. We checked the final proofs today, so it's definitely on the way.

Football practice is moving along and Haps "Got a Hunch" Benfer says that while the material is green, it looks good. It's still too early to make predictions--or are we just being cagey? The schedule has been enlarged just a bit with the addition of Princeton. The game will be played at Princeton on November 11. That leaves November 4 as an open date on the schedule, but there are some chances that it may be filled by the time we bat out our next letter to you. The soccer team is also practicing--with green material--but Coach Morgan Shaffer is enthusiastic about the spirit of the men who are working with him.

Muhlenberg's track team took fifth place in the neighborhood intercollegiate meet at Princeton last weekend. Princeton finished first, and Villanova second. The next five were far behind the two leaders--Swarthmore with 8½ points, Muhlenberg with 8, Lafayette with 7½, Rutgers with 7, and Lehigh with 3. There's consolation, at least, in the fact that we were better than either Lafayette or Lehigh. Yes, that traditional rivalry still exists even though neither Lehigh nor Lafayette are on this year's football schedule.

Talking about football, Joe Matuska '33, returned to his first Alma Mater, Palmerton High School, as football coach.

Our service list continues to grow and as this letter goes into the mail, there are 1,233 names on the list--Muhlenberg men who are fighting on every front and who are in training or on duty in all but nine states We just checked the list today and find Muhlenberg men in every state except West Virginia, North Dakota, Idaho, Maine, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Vermont, and Wyoming. Men who originally were in one or two of those states have been transferred, some of them to overseas bases. Incidentally, our file now shows 363 men with APO or FPO addresses.

One of those interesting meetings that sometimes takes place overseas happened the other day when ENSIGN ROBERT HOLBEN '42 and his brother, YEOMAN THIRD CLASS WAYNE HOLBEN '44 bumped into each other in England shortly after Wayne arrived there from the States. The meeting took place just a day after Robert's LCT came back after one of its many trips across the channel to the invasion fronts.

And talking about meetings, we heard indirectly that PRIVATE GORDON TREISBACH '37, now stationed in the Hawaiian Islands, was among the GI's who shook hands with Commander-in-Chief Roosevelt when he visited the island base a few weeks ago. Treisbach didn't tell us about it, but he did tell us that he is still looking for some Muhlenberg men over there. I think he'll find them because there seem to be plenty in that area. Out in New Guinea ENSIGN JACK CLIFFORD '43 and ENSIGN CHUCK MORAN '43 are still together in a PT squadron. They have no complaints and say living conditions are fine. A letter today from LIEUTENANT MILDRED B. FLUCK, an Army nurse at a hospital in New Guinea, brought some real Japanese money and some Nip invasion money for the collection. Most of it came from captured Japs.

PRIVATE WALTER P. CONRAD '30 has been in France for a long time. His duties as an MP keep him on the move and he has been able to see quite a bit of France--but not through rose-colored glasses. From France also comes word from CORPORAL CHARLIE KRAUSS '46 that a sure cure for heavy drinkers is a shot of French cognac. SERGEANT BILL RICHARDS '45 will also have some vivid memories of the invasion of France when he comes home. He's another of the boys waiting for this thing to end so that he can come back to Muhlenberg to resume where he left off.

It didn't take long for LIEUTENANT ARTHUR HILL '43 to discover LIEUTENANT CHARLIE TRINKLE '42, LIEUTENANT JACK JUPINA '41, LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROLAND HARTMAN '31, and PRIVATE FIRST CLASS BOB STAHL '43 over in Hawaii, but he just missed seeing LIEUTENANT PETE GORGONE '43 when he passed through. Art is still going with "the same girl " (he married her) and believe it or not, he writes to her everyday.

LIEUTENANT NELSON K. GRAHAM '40 is still looking for some Muhlenberg men in New Guinea. He has, however, met a few men from Allentown. CORPORAL ERNEST F. KRAUSE '43 and SERGEANT TUSS BECKER '43 gave us this week's report from India. Krause says he is as satisfied as anyone can be in India and told us something about the movie stars who have entertained the boys over there--Paulette Goddard, Melvyn Douglas, and Keenan Wynn. The thermometer over there regularly tops the 95° mark those of us in Allentown were talking about for thirty-four consecutive days. Becker has been having a good time meeting a few interesting nurses from Allentown and Palmerton, but we're not going to tell anyone about it. He sends us the word that it's CAPTAIN PAUL FATZINGER '31 now.

From China we had a letter and a Chinese ten dollar bill from LIEUTENANT GEORGE S. KUTSCHER '43. The ten dollar bill is worth seven cents. Kutscher paid $600 (Chinese money) for a good steak dinner in a Chinese town. Somewhere in the Pacific, CHAPLAIN LUTHER F. GERHART '22 had dinner with CHAPLAIN FREDERICK FAIRCLOUGH '32. Gerhart suggests that some of the Muhlenberg men who are skippers of LCT's and similar craft borrow them at the end of the war, beach them on Lake Muhlenberg, and set sail for all the spots made famous by Muhlenberg participation. Studying, he suggests, could be done in the time now spent watching for planes.

With a long letter from ENSIGN JIM HEMSTREET '44 came pictures to prove that he and ENSIGN DENNY BEATTIE '43 and LIEUTENANT PAUL KEMMERER '42 had been together in Naples. Some genuine invasion money was enclosed. ENSIGN CHUCK KEIM '42 also was in Italy with the Muhlenberg Navy. Beattie has become the skipper of his own ship and with Hemstreet has adopted the slogan "Calcutta by Christmas." Hemstreet's description of Naples is a classic. He has promised us a German helmet for Muhlenberg's war souvenirs. While swimming a short distance from a small and lazy hamlet, Hemstreet's thoughts wandered back to a year ago when ENSIGN JOHN KOHLER '42 was drowned off that very spot.

Believe it or not, but LIEUTENANT RALPH LENTZ '44 spent a weekend at Cambridge and stayed at one of the colleges that make up the University. Imagine his surprise when a valet woke him up, served him tea in bed, shined his shoes, and asked when it would be convenient to have breakfast. He remembered enough about his English courses at Muhlenberg to visit the room where William Pitt lived and the room in which Thomas Gray wrote his famous Elegy.

LIEUTENANT RAY TURNER '42 is still at sea. But since his last letter to us, he ran into LIEUTENANT BILL VAN NESS '42 and LEE EVERETT '41 in an officers' club on an undisclosed island in the Pacific. They were the first two Muhlenberg men he met since he started roaming the Pacific. Both Everett and Van Ness are serving on LCT's. Turner was to have been best man at the wedding of LIEUTENANT GEORGE HAWKINS '42 in July, but the Navy had other plans for him.

STAFF SERGEANT JACK HIGH '43 finally crashed through with a letter from Africa. During the last year he has been in Africa, Naples, Anzio, and then Africa again. The dental officer in his outfit is LIEUTENANT ANTHONY C. PARRILLO '32. According to a recent letter from SERGEANT SAM MELLNER '40, he and AL PIERCE '42 are still together and Al has been working wonders with Mellner's morale. Sam admits it and referred us to a certain Limey for verification. Two of our chaplains have joined the ranks of those overseas, CLARENCE A. BOYER '29 and CLARENCE L. SCHAERTEL '21.

Before we come back to the States, we might as well tell you that Richmond Myers of the Geology Department is operating quite a little fruit farm over near Emmaus and is supplying some of the Lehigh County housewives with fruit for canning. This ad is run without any charge. And talking about farming, John Trainer of the Biology Department has spent the past few weekends helping a friend pitch hay--hay, I said--on a farm down in New Jersey. Over in the same department, Don Shay is patting himself on the back all around the place because his laboratory has been officially recognized by the State Department of Health as a testing laboratory for water. Never sell Doc Shankweiler short--he always manages to keep at least three steps ahead of his two instructors in spite of the age differential.

John F. Smith '44 was honorably discharged from the Army in May 1942 and from a veterans' hospital in June 1943. He is now preparing for his activities in civilian life by studying law at the Dickinson School of Law. PRIVATE MICHAEL FIDORACK '44 writes from Nashville, Tenn where he is on duty with a military police unit. From Newport, R.I. comes word that FRED HEUER '44 has completed his course at Northwestern University and is now one of our growing number of ensigns. He is a division officer in the preliminary training unit at Newport, answering the same kind of questions he asked his officers when he went into the Navy. BILL DEISSLER '43 is also sporting his first gold stripe at Fort Pierce, Fla. He and ENSIGN BOB WESSNER '43 are in the same camp just a few tents away.

Down in Alamogordo, N.M. PRIVATE GERALD C. SNYDER '40 and PRIVATE FIRST CLASS IVAN HANDWERK '39 manage to see each other from time to time. Snyder is an armorer for one of those powerful and destructive B-29's. PRIVATE ART GETZ '45 and PRIVATE KENNY KEITER '46 are together at Camp Blanding, Fla. where Art is getting his first taste of Army life. After finishing a course in Diesel Engines at Gulfport, Miss., WAYNE F. SCHWEITZER '45 entered the submarine service and is now stationed at New London, Conn. ENSIGN NEWTON K. DEIBERT '44 is receiving some more training at the Naval Air Station at Jacksonville.

Class 44-11 is sliding for home in the Navigation School at Coral Gables, Fla. Among the boys heading for home base and a commission is AIR CADET CLAUDE E. DIEROLF '43, who says the navigation set-up is pretty rugged. APPRENTICE SEAMAN WILLIAM R. CROASDALE '45, now at the Naval Reserve Pre-Midshipmen's School at Asbury Park, is sorry he missed that reunion of the Baumans (and the Fisters) that was held at Bob Mosser's a few weeks ago. Remember, we told you about it?

SEAMAN SECOND CLASS WINFIELD KISTLER '34 expects a fairly comfortable ride when he goes to sea on the Battleship Nevada. CHAPLAIN ARNOLD P. SPOHN '39 is on duty at the Naval Training School at the Naval Armory in Toledo, Ohio. ENSIGN WAYNE R. KECK '44, now in a training program for executive officers of LSM's, and MIDSHIPMAN JIM KLEMMER '44, in attack training at Camp Sheldon, talked over old times at Virginia Beach a few weeks ago. HARRY K. NICHOLAS '44 has gone back to school, this time as an aviation cadet at the Navy Flight Preparatory School at the University of Pennsylvania.

For the benefit of you men who were in the V-12 unit at Muhlenberg, it's LIEUTENANT STANLEY KUFFEL now--with two full gold stripes. The former physical fitness officer at Muhlenberg is doing the same kind of job in the Navy V-12 unit at Villanova. COMMANDER LOWENSTEIN has been in New Guinea for practically all of the time since he left Muhlenberg last December. He has very fond memories of Muhlenberg and wishes it would stop raining in New Guinea.

"There is something about my decrepit old body that presents a challenge to the War Department," writes PRIVATE TIPPY JOHNSON '31 from Fort Jackson, S.C. He believes the War Department has conceived the idea that if his ancient bones can be trained into some remote shadow of a soldier, they must indeed be very good.

We have some more promotions to report: CAPTAIN RICHARD D. BAUSCH '38; SEAMAN SECOND CLASS WINFIELD KISTLER '34; SECOND LIEUTENANT KENNETH STONE '44; CAPTAIN PAUL FATZINGER '31; SERGEANT RICHARD N. WILLIAMS '45; SERGEANT JAMES FEEMAN '44; FIREMAN FIRST CLASS WAYNE R. SCHWEITZER '45; ENSIGN EARL E. RUPERT '44; CORPORAL CARL A. RASSLER '43; SEAMAN FIRST CLASS WILLIAM C. HORINE '33; ENSIGN FREDERICK A HEUER '44; CAPTAIN CLARENCE A BOYER '29; MAJOR HERMAN F. MECKSTROTH '28; STAFF SERGEANT PAUL F. WALTER '43; CORPORAL J.J. EVANCHO '43; and ENSIGN RICHARD H. GEISSLER '44.

Here are the new names that have been added to the service roster:

Dr. John D. Carapella '34, Address Wanted
Pvt. Arthur L. Getz '45, 201st I.T.B., 62nd Regt.,Camp Blanding, Fla.
David Giaccaglia '42, APO 929, c/o P.M., San Francisco, Calif.
Pfc. Isadore I. Friedman '28, MP Det., Army Base, Boston 10, Mass.
Frederick T. Kunz '41, Address Wanted
A/C Harry K. Nicholas '44, USNFPS Box 96, Univ. of Penn., Phila., Pa.
Pfc. Jack Snauffer '43, 2039 Spring Garden St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Cpl. Carl K. Walton '44, Hq. 26th Inf. Div., Ft. Jackson, S.C.
Lt. Jerome B. Hoffman '41, Address Wanted
Pvt. Mahlon Hellerich '40, Co. C 52nd Bn. 1st Ptn, Camp Wolters, Tex.
Brig. Gen. Stewart Reimel '17, 80 Broadway, New York, N.Y.
A/S Richard Pitel '46, Address Wanted
Pvt. Harry Powell '44, Bucknell Univ., Box 201, Lewisburg, Pa.
Pvt. Gerald Snyder '40, 231 AAFBU (CCTSVH), Alamogordo, N.M.
Donald A. Gibson '37, Address Wanted
Lt. Anthony Parrillo '32, Address Wanted
Lt. Daniel Lesser '39, APO 8, c/o P.M., New York, N.Y.
Sgt. Arthur Hafner '40, Co. C 161 Med. Trg. Bn., Ft. Lewis, Wash.
Edwin P. Koch '43, Co. 1436, Brks. 125-1, Bainbridge, Md.
Cpl. Lucio F. Petrovich '44, Sec. C 700th AAFBU Wright Fld.,Dayton,O.

Just a line to remind all of you to keep us up-to-date on your correct addresses. Right now we are lacking the addresses of approximately 100 men in service and those men aren't getting either the service letter or the magazine, simply because we don't know where to send it. Keep your address current by dropping us a line whenever you move. Lots of luck to you and we'll be seeing you in another letter in two weeks.

Sincerely,

Gordon

Gordon B. Fister
For the Alumni Office